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DATA ON DONBASS COAL MINES

LAGS IN COAL ENTERPRISES -- Frunze, Sovetskaya Kirgiziya, 6 Mar 53

In 1952, 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> out of 195 sections of mines in the Donbassantratsit Combine did not fulfill the state plan. In addition, 45 percent of the sections, in mines which did fulfill the plan, did not meet their quotas.

Cycle norms are being fulfilled in only a few more than half of the coal faces throughout the country which have converted to the cycle work schedule. Sometimes the cycle norm is fulfilled, but not the plan for coal output. Successful execution of the cycle work schedule depends on strict adherence to two-shift extraction of coal, but many mines are failing to conform to this requirement. Particular violators of the two-shift method in the Donbass area are the Voroshilovgradugol' Combine, where only 36 percent of the faces converted are observing the two-shift method, and the Donbassantratsit Combine, where the figure is 47 percent.

More than 20 mine construction trusts are fulfilling or exceeding their quotas. Among those lagging in the Donbass area are the Rostovshakhtostroy Trust and the Voroshilovgradshakhtostroy Combine.

MECHANIZED COAL LOADING AT THE FACE -- Moscow, Master Uglya, No 1, 1953

The tenth eastern face of Mine No 20--20-bis is one of the best faces supplied with a combine in the Zuyevantratsit Trust of the Stalinugol' Combine. The workers at this face, led by M. Shvedchinkov, chief of the section, exceed their cycle norm every month.

At the 144-meter face an anthracite seam with an angle of dip 22-23 degrees is being worked. The total thickness of the seam is 1.15 meters; the useful thickness, 1.07 meters. The coal is of average toughness. There is a layer of clayey shale 3-8 centimeters thick in the upper part of the seam, and there is clayey shale in both the roof and floor of the seam.

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Roof control is effected by partial backfilling with rubble strips 7 meters wide. The face is supported mainly by SGK-2 metal props. The distance between props along the dip is one meter, the distance between rows along the strike is 0.75 meter.

Coal mining is carried out with the use of a Donbass combine. Since the seam dips, the loader is replaced by a loading device consisting of three detachable metal plates and two chutes. At the end away from the face and in the center, the plates are flat, but they have a curved edge on the side away from the worked-out area. The plates are joined together by pins and the loading device is reinforced in the same way at the end chute. The absence of bolt connections permits the mechanism to be dismantled quickly when the combine is being lowered and re-assembled quickly when the process of lowering the machine has been completed.

In the operation of the combine, the coal, cut by the chain of the ring bar and broken by the breaking unit, falls into the loading device and then onto the conveying plates, going from there by gravity to a passage where it is loaded onto mine cars.

Haulage of loaded cars and delivery of empty ones is effected by battery electric locomotives. Shunting operations at the loading point are mechanized. The haulage passage is cut with the aid of the UMP-1 rock-loading machine.

The work organization at the face is based on the fulfillment of one cycle each 24 hours. Coal is cut by the combine in two extraction shifts. During the entire period of working on this schedule (February - October 1952) the face averaged 32.5 cycles per month, as against a norm of 27.2. The operator of the combine and his helpers are regularly fulfilling their norms 150 percent.

The average coal output in 1952 was 31 percent above 1951. Despite an increase in wages, production costs per ton of coal for the section were below the plan for the third quarter 1952 and are continuing to drop as a result of an increase in labor productivity, a decrease in the staff of helpers, and the saving of mine timbers. The ash content of coal is 8 percent below established limits.

ARTEMUGOL' COMBINE MINE USES WASTE ROCK FOR BACKFILLING -- Moscow, Master Uglya, No 3, 1953

Mine No 19-20 of the Artemugol' Combine used to transport all rock removed during development work to dump heaps at the surface. This meant that millions of rubles were spent for rock transport during the years of the mine's existence. In 1951 - 1952, faces at a level of 320-440 meters in seams more than one meter thick were put in operation. The worked-out area at these faces has been back-filled with rock removed during the cutting of development workings at the 320-meter level. This creates safe conditions for working steeply dipping seams since it insures against sudden collapse of the roof or sagging of the face.

To unload rock in the worked-out area in the mine, portable, circular dumpers were designed. Such devices are easy to construct, durable, and mobile. They can be constructed in mine machine shops, and the size of a cross section of the haulage passage does not need to be increased to install them.

It is now possible to leave in the mine 65 percent of the rock removed in cutting haulage passages. Soon all faces of the 320-440 meter level will be put in operation and then it will be possible to leave all the rock removed in the mine. This procedure is keeping the dump heaps of the mine from increasing and it has also decreased expenses for rock haulage considerably.

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Other mines of the Artemugol' Combine are also working two levels simultaneously, for example, Nikitovka Mine No 4-5, Komsomolets Mine, the Mine imeni Rumyantsev, Mine No 5 imeni V. I. Lenin, the Mine imeni Gazeta Kochegarka, and several others. All of these mines could use successfully the method of back-filling the worked-out area adopted by Mine No 19-20.

DONBASS MINES OUTSIDE MINISTRY OF COAL INDUSTRY -- Moscow, Izvestiya, 24 Mar 53

The Donbass contains not only large mines of the Ministry of the Coal Industry but also small mines with a daily output of 15-100 tons which are exploited by different departments and enterprises of the light and food industries. In Voroshilovgradskaya Oblast alone there are estimated to be more than 50 such small mines.

These mines are worked unprofitably, production costs are high, and the productive capacities are poorly exploited. No technical assistance seems to be available to these mines, faces and passages are primitively equipped, and many of the mines are completely lacking in mechanization. Some faces do have cutting machines but utilize them very poorly.

As an example, the Ukrglavlegsnaab (Ukrainian Main Administration of Light Industry Supplies), located in Kiev, opened up its own mine. Coal extraction in this mine is carried on mainly by manual labor, and neither coal loading at the face nor the conveying of coal to the mine shaft is mechanized. There is a cutting machine but it has not been repaired since 1946 and long idle periods interrupt its operations. Production costs of one ton of coal are excessively high. In 1952, this mine caused the state about 500,000 rubles in losses.

The mine has a continuous shortage of mine timbers, of cutting units for the cutting machine, and even of shovels. Ukrglavlegsnaab depends on the mine to show its own initiative and resourcefulness in acquiring the things that it needs. Glavspirt (Main Administration of Alcohol), the Odessa Jute Factory, and the fuel department of the executive committee of the Stalingradskaya Oblast Soviet take the same attitude toward their mines.

The Mine Administration of the First Main Administration of the Ivanovskaya Oblast Cotton Industry did not receive a single bit during the past 2 years but, in spite of this, mining operations were carried out here on a wide scale. The chief of the Mine Administration explained this by saying that the miners are so eager to extract more coal that they supply the bits and even the drilling rods themselves.

The existing method of administering small mines is bad because it restricts the development of the mines and the exploitation of their capacities. The owners of the mines plan production starting with their own narrow, departmental interests. The Mine Administration of the First Main Administration of the Ivanovskaya Oblast Cotton Industry extracted 50,000 tons of coal in 1952 but, even though a new mine is being put in operation, only 45,000 tons are planned for 1953.

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